

We are standing at a distance $d=15$ m away from a house. The house wall is $h=6$ m high and the roof has an inclination angle $\beta=30^\circ$. We throw a stone with initial speed $v_0=20$ m/s at an angle $\alpha=38^\circ$. The gravitational acceleration is $g=10$ m/s².

(a) At what horizontal distance from the house wall is the stone going to hit the roof - s in the figure-? (in meters)

(b) What time does it take the stone to reach the roof? (in seconds)

Solution:

The equation of motion for the stone for the X-axis:

$$x: s + d = V_0 t \cos \alpha$$

$$t = \frac{s + d}{V_0 \cos \alpha} \quad (1)$$

The equation of motion for the stone for the Y-axis:

$$y: h + h_1 = V_0 t \sin \alpha - \frac{gt^2}{2} \quad (2)$$

From the right triangle ABC:

$$\tan \beta = \frac{h_1}{s} \Rightarrow h_1 = s \tan \beta \quad (3)$$

(3)in(2):

$$h + s \tan \beta = V_0 t \sin \alpha - \frac{gt^2}{2} \quad (4)$$

(1)in(4):

$$h + s \tan \beta = \left(\frac{V_0 \sin \alpha}{V_0 \cos \alpha} \right) (s + d) - \frac{g}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{s + d}{V_0 \cos \alpha} \right)^2$$

$$h + s \tan \beta = (s + d) \tan \alpha - \frac{g}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{s + d}{V_0 \cos \alpha} \right)^2$$

$$h + s \tan \beta = s \tan \alpha + d \tan \alpha - \frac{gs^2}{2(V_0 \cos \alpha)^2} - \frac{sdg}{(V_0 \cos \alpha)^2} - \frac{gd^2}{2(V_0 \cos \alpha)^2}$$

$$s^2 \cdot \frac{g}{2(V_0 \cos \alpha)^2} + s \left(\tan \beta - \tan \alpha + \frac{dg}{(V_0 \cos \alpha)^2} \right) + h - d \tan \alpha + \frac{gd^2}{2(V_0 \cos \alpha)^2} = 0$$

$$0.02013s^2 + 0.4s - 3.455 = 0$$

$$s = 6.5\text{m}; -26.38\text{m}$$

We need only the positive root of the equation:

$$s = 6.5\text{m}$$

Time to reach the roof:

$$(1): t = \frac{6.5\text{m} + 15\text{m}}{20 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \cdot \cos 38^\circ} = 1.36\text{s}$$

Answer: a) the stone is going to hit the roof at distance $s = 6.5\text{m}$ from the house wall;

b) time to reach the roof $t = 1.36\text{s}$

